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Exploiting Domain Structure for Named Entity Recognition

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Exploiting Domain Structure for Named Entity Recognition

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Named Entity Recognition

- A fundamental task in IE
- An important and challenging task in biomedical text mining
  - Critical for relation mining
  - Great variation and different gene naming conventions

Need for domain adaptation

- Performance degrades when test domain differs from training domain
- Domain overfitting

task	NE types	train → test	F1
news	LOC, ORG, PER	NYT → NYT	0.855
		Reuters → NYT	0.641
biomedical	gene, protein	mouse → mouse	0.541
		fly → mouse	0.281

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Existing work

- Supervised learning
  - HMM, MEMM, CRF, SVM, etc. (e.g., [Zhou & Su 02], [Bender et al. 03], [McCallum & Li 03])
- Semi-supervised learning
  - Co-training ([Collins & Singer 1999])
- Domain adaptation
  - External dictionary ([Ciaramita & Altun 2005])
  - Not seriously studied

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Outline

- Observations
- Method
  - Generalizability-based feature ranking
  - Rank-based prior
- Experiments
- Conclusions and future work

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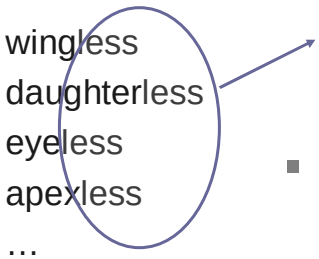
Observation I

- Overemphasis on domain-specific features in the trained model



"suffix –less" weighted high in the model trained from fly data

- Useful for other organisms?

  in general NO!
- May cause generalizable features to be downweighted

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Observation II

- Generalizable features: generalize well in all domains
  - …**decapentaplegic** and **wingless** are expressed in analogous patterns in each primordium of… (fly)
  - …that **CD38** is expressed by both neurons and glial cells…that **PABPC5** is expressed in fetal brain and in a range of adult tissues. (mouse)

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  "w_{i+2} = expressed" is generalizable

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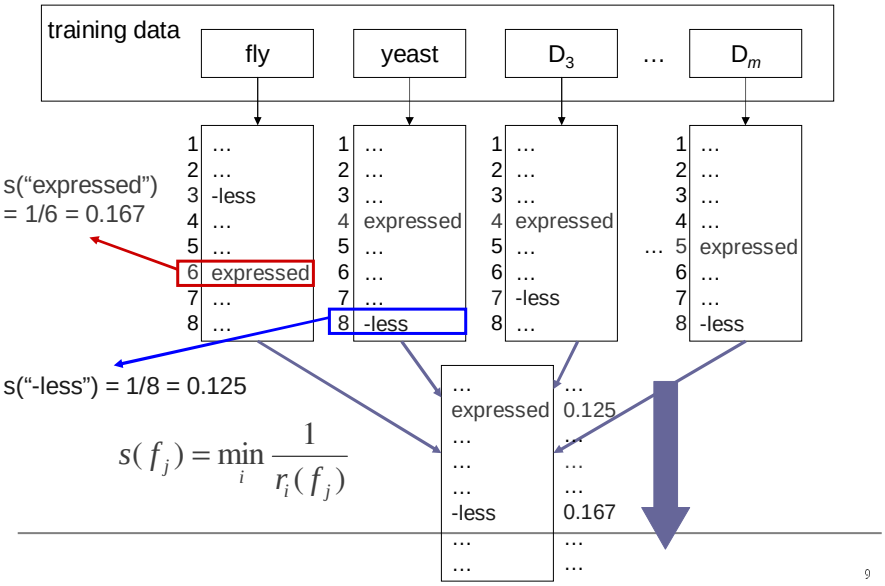
Generalizability-based feature ranking



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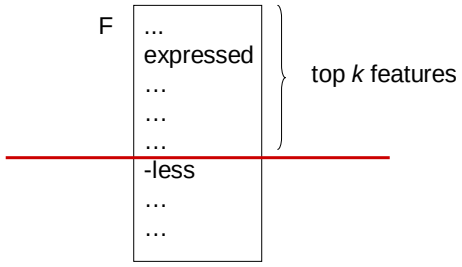
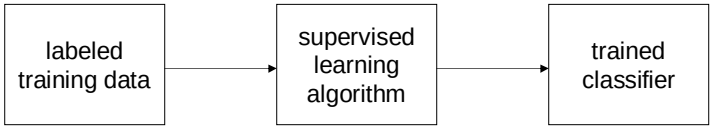
Feature ranking & learning





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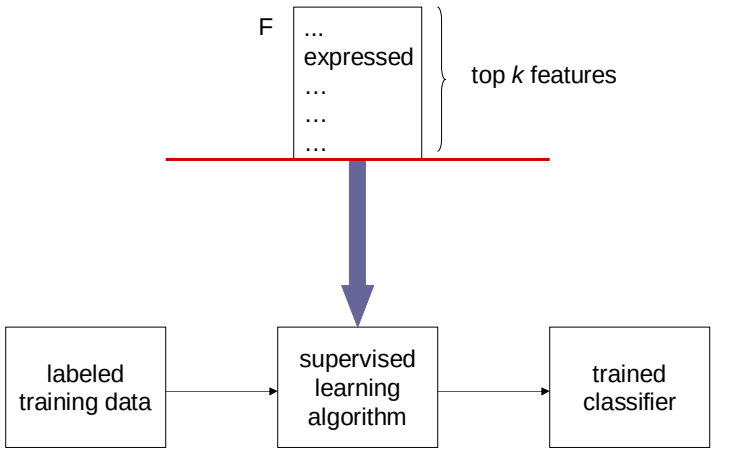
Feature ranking & learning



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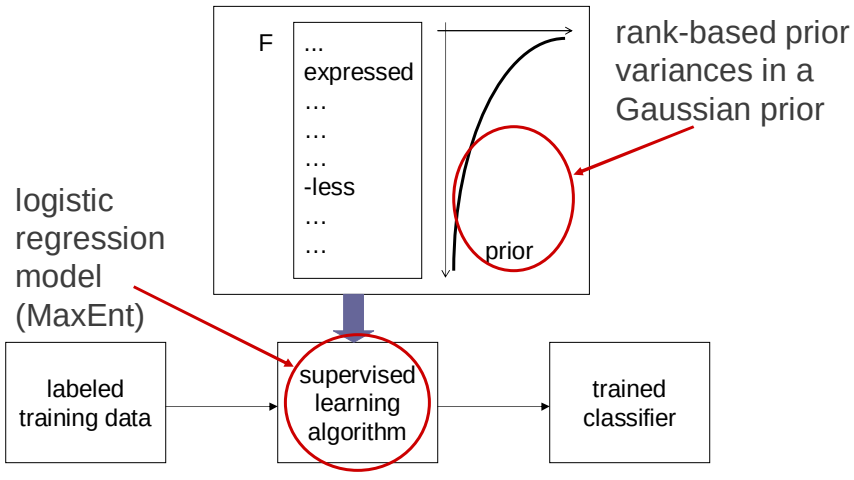
Feature ranking & learning



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Prior variances

- Logistic regression model

$$p(y_k \mid \vec{x}, \vec{\beta}) = \frac{\exp(\vec{x} \cdot \vec{\beta}_k)}{\sum_l \exp(\vec{x} \cdot \vec{\beta}_l)}$$

- MAP parameter estimation

$$\hat{\vec{\beta}} = \arg\max_{\vec{\beta}} p(\vec{\beta}) \prod_{i=1}^{n} p(y_i \mid \vec{x}_i, \vec{\beta})$$

prior for the parameters

$$p(\vec{\beta}) = \prod_j \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_j^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{\vec{\beta}_j^2}{2\sigma_j^2}\right)$$

σ_j^2 is a function of r_j

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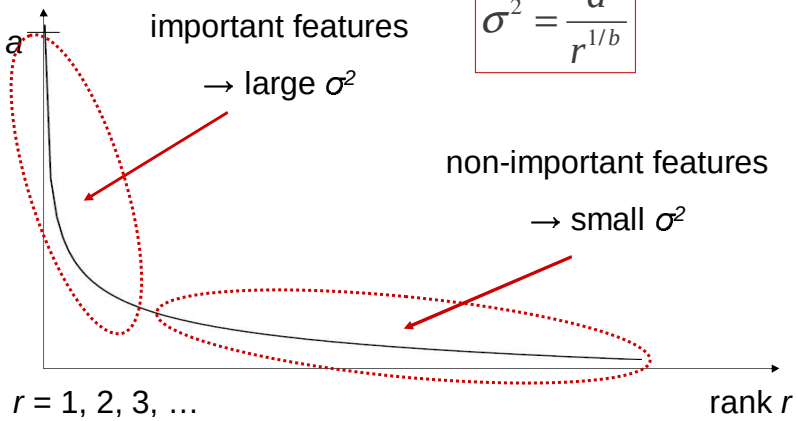
Rank-based prior

variance σ^2



$$\sigma^2 = \frac{a}{r^{1/b}}$$

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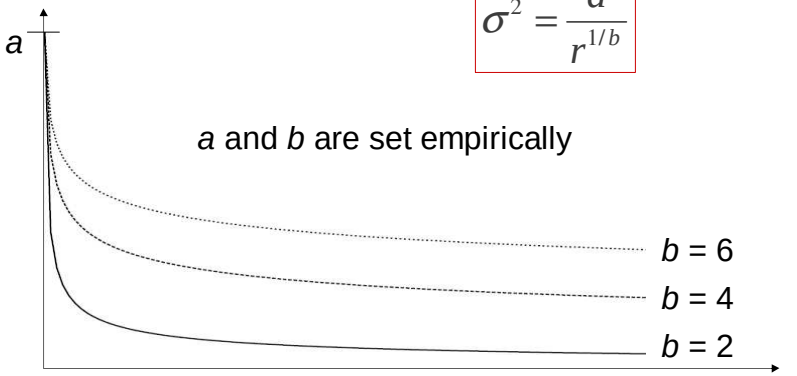
Rank-based prior

variance σ^2

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{a}{r^{1/b}}$$



a and *b* are set empirically

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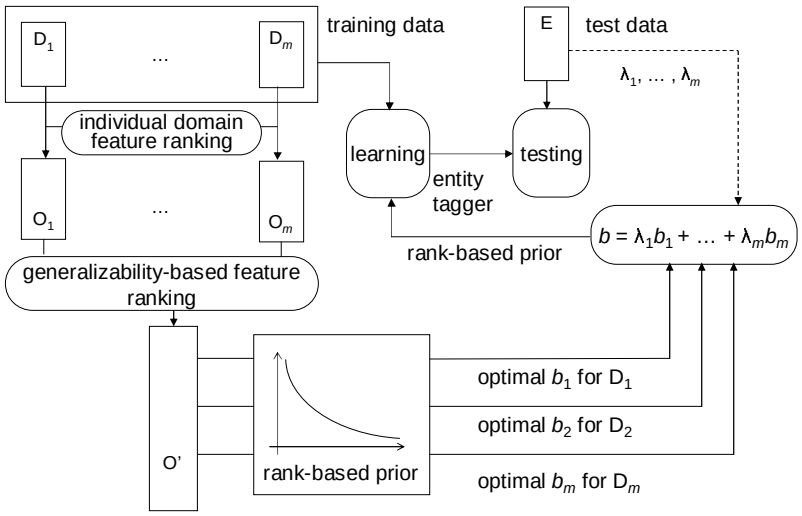
Summary



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Experiments

- Data set
  - BioCreative Challenge Task 1B
  - Gene/protein recognition
  - 3 organisms/domains: fly, mouse and yeast
- Experimental setup
  - 2 organisms for training, 1 for testing
  - Baseline: uniform-variance Gaussian prior
  - Compared with 3 regular feature ranking methods: frequency, information gain, chi-square

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Comparison with baseline

Exp	Method	Precision	Recall	F1
F+M→Y	Baseline	0.557	0.466	0.508
	Domain	0.575	0.516	0.544
	% Imprv.	**+3.2%**	**+10.7%**	**+7.1%**
F+Y→M	Baseline	0.571	0.335	0.422
	Domain	0.582	0.381	0.461
	% Imprv.	**+1.9%**	**+13.7%**	**+9.2%**
M+Y→F	Baseline	0.583	0.097	0.166
	Domain	0.591	0.139	0.225
	% Imprv.	**+1.4%**	**+43.3%**	**+35.5%**

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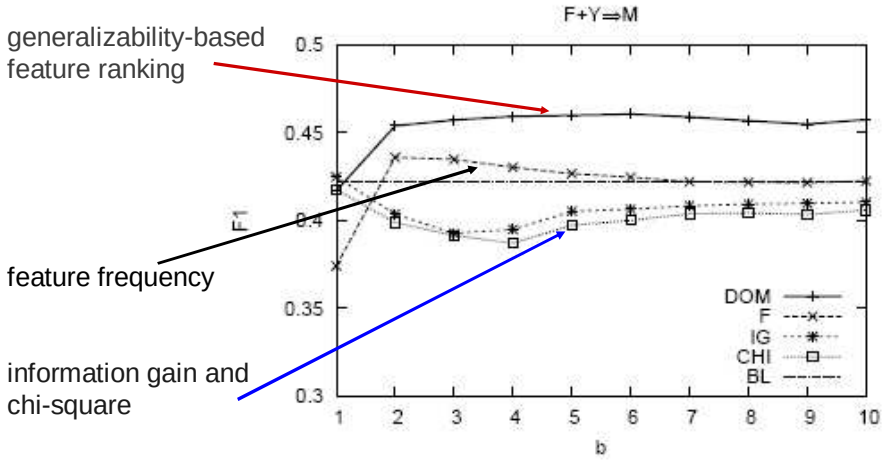
Comparison with regular feature ranking methods



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Conclusions and future work

- We proposed
  - Generalizability-based feature ranking method
  - Rank-based prior variances
- Experiments show
  - Domain-aware method outperformed baseline method
  - Generalizability-based feature ranking better than regular feature ranking
- To exploit the unlabeled test data

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The end

Thank you!

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